Amendments to the Claims

The current listing of the claims replaces all previous amendments and listings of the claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~small-sized information device~~ lending management system comprising:

a client terminal connected to a network; and

a server terminal ~~also~~ connected to said network and ~~to which a small-sized information device can~~ configured to be connected to an information device ~~using a cable or radio waves~~;

wherein said client terminal ~~transmits~~ is configured to transmit to the server terminal via the network information related to reservation ~~for lending said small-sized~~ of the information device, ~~which information is inputted by a user, to said server terminal via said network~~;

said server terminal ~~receives~~ is configured to receive from the client terminal the information related to the reservation ~~from said client terminal, judges,~~ to determine whether the reservation ~~for lending said small-sized information device can be registered or not~~ is permitted in accordance with the received information, and ~~if it is judged that the reservation can be registered, registers~~ to register the reservation and ~~transmits an~~ to transmit information to said client terminal ~~which indicates that~~ to indicate registration of the reservation ~~has been registered,~~ and

the client terminal comprises an image transmission designating unit configured to transmit an input image data from the information device.

2. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 1, wherein said server terminal comprises:

3

a user certification unit ~~which authenticates~~ configured to authenticate a user in accordance with input information ~~of the user~~ and

a lending permission unit ~~which checks~~ configured to check the ~~user~~ input information, ~~which is~~ provided with an access right by said user certification unit, ~~and said reservation registration information; in the case that they correspond with each other, permitting to lend said small-sized~~ and to permit lending of the information device.

3. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 2, wherein said user certification unit ~~carries out the user certification by checking a~~ is configured to check an identity of the user ~~ID to be inputted~~ and a password ~~with the user information, which is provided in advance~~.

4. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 2, wherein said user certification unit ~~is provided with~~ comprises a magnetic card reader ~~for reading the~~ configured to read a magnetic card[[,]] in which ~~the~~ an identity of the user ~~ID~~ is registered, ~~and carries out the user certification by checking the user ID and a password with the user information, which is provided in advance~~.

5. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 2, wherein said user certification unit ~~is provided with an IC~~ comprises an integrated circuit card reader ~~for reading the IC~~ configured to read an integrated circuit card[[,]] in which ~~the~~ an identity of the user ~~ID~~ is registered, ~~and carries out the user certification by checking the user ID and a password with the user information, which is provided in advance~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 2, wherein said user certification unit ~~includes a~~ comprises fingerprint input unit ~~for inputting~~ configured to receive an input fingerprint of the user, ~~wherein said user certification unit carries out the user certification by checking the fingerprint with the user information, which is provided in advance~~.

4

7. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 1, wherein ~~said small-sized information device is provided with a lock switching unit for~~ ~~switching operation possible/operation impossible in accordance with an input signal,~~ ~~wherein~~ said server terminal ~~transmits~~ is configured to transmit a lock release signal to activate and deactivate a lock switching unit configured to permit and to prevent operation of the ~~small-sized~~ information device~~, which is already registered on carrying out lending~~.

8. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 1, wherein ~~said client terminal is provided with a~~ ~~image transmission method designating unit~~ ~~for designating a method for transmitting an input image data from said small-sized~~ ~~information device having image inputting means, and~~ said server terminal ~~transmits~~ is configured to input said ~~inputted~~ input image data in accordance with ~~an~~ the image transmission method~~, which is designated by the image transmission method designating unit,~~ ~~on~~ after returning said ~~small-sized~~ information device.

9. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 8, wherein the image transmission designating unit is configured to transmit the input image ~~transmission method, which is designated by the image transmission method designating unit,~~ ~~comprises an~~ data by electronic ~~computer-originated~~ mail.

10. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 8, wherein the image transmission designating unit is configured to transmit the input image ~~transmission method, which is designated by the image transmission method designating unit,~~ ~~employs a FTP (file transfer protocol) in a TCP/IP~~ data by a file transfer protocol method.

11. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 8, wherein the image transmission designating unit is configured to transmit the input image ~~transmission method, which is designated by the image transmission method designating unit,~~ ~~comprises a PUT command (file transfer) in a HTTP~~ data by a file transfer method.

12. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 8, further comprising~~:~~ :

a printing unit ~~for printing~~ configured to print the input image data ~~on the network, wherein said small-sized information device lending management system transmits the input image data to said printing unit so that said input image data is printed~~.

13. (Currently Amended) A ~~small-sized information device~~ lending management system comprising:

a client terminal connected to a network; and

a server terminal ~~to which a small-sized information device can be connected using a cable or radio waves and is constructed by a WWW server~~ comprising a web server connected to said network, the server terminal configured to be connected to an information device;

wherein said client terminal ~~specifies said WWW server by a URL to be inputted by the user and transmits~~ is configured to transmit information related to reservation ~~for lending said small-sized~~ of the information device~~, which information is inputted by a user,~~ to said ~~WWW~~ server via said network;

said server terminal ~~receives~~ is configured to receive the information related to reservation ~~from said client terminal, judges~~ to determine whether reservation ~~for lending said small-sized information device can be registered or not~~ is permitted in accordance with the received information, and ~~if it is judged that the reservation can be registered, registers~~ to register the reservation and ~~transmits an~~ to transmit information to said client terminal ~~which indicates that~~ to indicate registration of the reservation ~~has been registered,~~ and

the client terminal comprises an image transmission designating unit configured to transmit an input image data from the information device having image inputting means.

14. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 13, wherein said server terminal comprises:

a user certification unit ~~which authenticates~~ configured to authenticate a user in accordance with input information ~~of the user;~~ and

a lending permission unit ~~which checks~~ configured to check the user input information, ~~which is~~ provided with an access right by said user certification unit, ~~and said reservation registration information; in the case that they correspond with each other, permitting to lend said small-sized~~ to permit lending of the information device.

15. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 14, wherein said user certification unit ~~carries out the user certification by checking a~~ is configured to check an identity of the user ~~ID to be inputted and a password with the user information, which is provided in advance~~.

16. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 14, wherein said user certification unit ~~is provided with~~ comprises a magnetic card reader ~~for reading the~~ configured to read a magnetic card[[,]] in which ~~the~~ an identity of the user ~~ID~~ is registered, ~~and carries out the user certification by checking the user ID and a password with the user information, which is provided in advance~~.

17. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 14, wherein said user certification unit ~~is provided with an IC~~ comprises an integrated circuit card reader ~~for reading the IC~~ configured to read an integrated circuit card[[,]] in which an identity of the user ~~ID~~ is registered, ~~and carries out the user certification by checking the user ID and a password with the user information, which is provided in advance~~.

18. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 14, wherein said user certification unit ~~includes~~ comprises a fingerprint input unit ~~for inputting~~ configured to receive an input fingerprint of the user, ~~wherein said user certification unit~~

7

~~carries out the user certification by checking the fingerprint with the user information, which
is provided in advance~~.

19. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 13,
wherein ~~said small-sized information device is provided with a lock switching unit for
switching operation possible/operation impossible in accordance with an input signal,
wherein said~~ server terminal ~~transmits~~ is configured to transit a lock release signal to activate
and deactivate a lock switching unit configured to permit and prevent operation of the ~~small
sized~~ information device~~, which is already registered on carrying out lending~~.

20. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 13,
wherein ~~said client terminal is provided with a image transmission method designating unit
for designating a method for transmitting an input image data from said small-sized
information device having image inputting means, and~~ said server terminal ~~transmits~~ is
configured to transmit said ~~inputted~~ input image data in accordance with ~~an~~ the image
transmission method~~, which is designated by the image transmission method designating unit,
on~~ after returning said ~~small-sized~~ information device.

21. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 20,
wherein the image transmission designating unit is configured to transmit the input image
~~transmission method, which is designated by the image transmission method designating unit,
comprises an~~ data by electronic ~~computer-originated~~ mail.

22. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 20,
wherein the image transmission designating unit is configured to transmit the input image
~~transmission method, which is designated by the image transmission method designating unit,
employs a FTP (file transfer protocol) in a TCP/IP~~ data by a file transfer protocol method.

23. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 20,
wherein the image transmission designating unit is configured to transmit the input image

8

~~transmission method, which is designated by the image transmission method designating unit,~~ ~~comprises a PUT command (file transfer) in a HTTP~~ data by a file transfer method.

24. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 20, further comprising:

a printing unit ~~for printing~~ configured to print the input image data ~~on the network,~~ ~~wherein said small-sized information device lending management system transmits the input~~ ~~image data to said printing unit so that said input image data is printed~~.

25. (Currently Amended) The lending management system according to claim 13, wherein said ~~small-sized information device~~ lending management system ~~does~~ is configured so as not to transmit the input image data to said client terminal ~~but stores it~~ and is configured to store the input image date in said ~~WWW~~ server.

26. and 27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) A lending reservation method for reserving lending of ~~a~~ ~~small-sized~~ an information device ~~having a lock function from a terminal via a network~~ with a reservation, comprising:

~~a user certification step for~~ authenticating a user ~~with an inputted user ID and a~~ ~~password~~;

~~a reservation registration/reservation impossible step for~~ confirming that the reservation is ~~competitive or not~~ available with respect to ~~a used date of~~ said ~~small-sized~~ information device~~, which the user, who is authenticated by said user certification step,~~ ~~desires, registering said reservation when there is not competition in reservation and~~ ~~transmitting error information to a terminal on the user side when the registration competition~~ ~~occurs~~;

~~a reservation registration confirmation step for~~ confirming <u>an identity of</u> the user who registers the reservation ~~in said reservation registration/reservation impossible step and said user's reservation information~~; and

~~a lock release step for~~ releasing ~~the~~ <u>a</u> lock of said ~~small-sized~~ information device~~, which the user, who is confirmed by said reservation registration confirmation step, desires~~<u>;</u> <u>and</u>

<u>designating a method for transmitting an image from the information device after the image device is reconnected to a network used in the lending reservation method</u>.

29. (Currently Amended) The lending reservation method according to claim 28, further comprising:

~~an image transmission method designating step for designating a method for transmitting the image from said small-sized information device; and~~

~~an image transmission step for~~ transmitting the image in accordance with the image transmission method~~, which is designated by the image transmission method designating step~~.

30. (Currently Amended) The lending reservation method according to claim 29, wherein <u>the image is transmitted in accordance with</u> the image transmission method ~~comprises any~~ <u>by</u> one of ~~the electronic computer-originated~~ <u>electronic</u> mail, ~~the FTP (file transfer protocol) in the TCP/IP~~ <u>a file transfer protocol method</u>, ~~the PUT command (file transfer) of the HTTP~~ <u>a file transfer method</u>, a printer output and ~~a method for~~ storing the image in the ~~WWW~~ server.

31. (Currently Amended) A computer readable recording medium for recording a computer program containing instructions ~~which when executed realizes~~ <u>configured to</u> provide a lending reservation method ~~for reserving lending of a small-sized~~ <u>to lend an</u>

information device having a lock ~~function~~ from a terminal via a network, the lending

reservation method comprising:

~~a user certification step for~~ authenticating a user ~~with an inputted user ID and a~~

~~password;~~

~~a reservation registration/reservation impossible step for~~ confirming that the

reservation is ~~competitive or not~~ <u>available</u> with respect to ~~a used date of~~ said ~~small-sized~~

information device, ~~which the user, who is authenticated by said user certification step,~~

~~desires, registering said reservation when there is not competition in reservation and~~

~~transmitting error information to a terminal on the user side when the registration competition~~

~~occurs;~~

~~a reservation registration confirmation step for~~ confirming <u>an identity of</u> the user who

registers the reservation ~~in said reservation registration/reservation impossible step and said~~

~~user's reservation information; and~~

~~a lock release step for~~ releasing the lock of said ~~small-sized~~ information device, ~~which~~

~~the user, who is confirmed by said reservation registration confirmation step, desires;~~ <u>and</u>

<u>designating a method for transmitting an image from the information device after the</u>

<u>image device is reconnected to the network used in the lending reservation method</u>.

32. (New) The lending management system according to claim 8, wherein said

server terminal is configured to install a WWW server function therein and to permit

inspection of the input image.